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Experience.

Sad is her voice, but sweet,
Low doth she speak to greet
Those that do come to meet
And walk her ways.
Low doth she speak, with stress
That ofttimes pitiless
Doth seem to new distress.
But when the days
Pass on to make the years,
And, one by one, youth's fears
And penalty of tears
Begin to cease.
Then doth she turn and sing,
"Courage, for lo, the King
Cometh at last to bring
Thy glad release!"

—*Nora Perry.*

Fairview, Ohio.

On the evening of March 12th, the battery of Gospel truth was wheeled into position at Fairview, and for nearly three weeks the little army of the cross at this place battled valiantly to win souls for Christ.

The meeting was in charge of that efficient veteran, Bro. P. J. Brown, who began his labor with us on the 14th. The attendance as long as the weather permitted, was good, and the interest was uniformly so. On Wednesday the 31st, five precious souls entered into covenant relation with God and were added to the church by baptism. Many more are almost pursuaded and the prospect before the Fairview church is an encouraging one. On Tuesday, April 1st, Bro. Brown left us, leaving behind a host of friends both new and old.

J. M. Tombaugh.

"Pleasant Valley," Kans.

Our meetings at Drywood closed March 25th, Bro. Bauman remained with us until the 22d instant. We feel the meetings resulted in much good. The ingathering was not so great as we would like to have seen, but the seed was sown for an abundant harvest. Frontier work is very different from preaching in old, cultivated fields.

Some twelve or thirteen sects were represented in this field of labor, and some are so completely hedged in with "God's eternal *wills* and *shalls*," that they cannot be wrong and an assault is about as effectual as "shooting boiled beans against Gibraltar." The immediate results were four added to the fold, and several more we think are near the Kingdom.

They need more meetings. A resident minister would do good work in this place if an efficient workman Brethren pray for us, and that the Lord may send more laborers into the harvest.

A. J. Hixson.

Cambria County Items.

On Sunday, March 14th, in company with brother Joseph Reighart, of Mineral Point, we started for the Pike meeting house a distance of six miles. This was the day that brother Smouse was to preach his first sermon as pastor of Conemaugh church; but on account of sickness in his family he failed to put in an appearance, when the writer was pressed into the service. Same evening Bro. Geo. Strayer and sister Mattie Byers were united in marriage, by Eld. Benjamin Gochnour, they surely have our good wishes.

Sunday 21st, attended meeting at Fair View, morning and evening, brother Smouse did the preaching. On Thursday April first, I attended the regular quarterly council meeting of the Conemaugh church. All passed off nicely.

On Sunday April 11th, attended meeting at Fair View again. There certainly was a fair representation of preachers present. Brother Smouse did the preaching, assisted by brother Smith of the United Brethren, while brethren Byers, John and Joseph Reighart and the writer helped the congregation to listen to the word preached. We are now about preparing to move to Jones Mills, Westmorland County, Pa. So, in all probability, these will be our last Cambria County Items, for a while at least. Nothing happens, we will ship our goods in a few days, and then for a short time visit among our brethren and friends, an d prhaps, kneel with them in prayer for the last time in this world. Then take our leave for our field of labor in the vineyard of the Lord. Brethren, sisters and friends, for present, good by.

Stephen Hilderbrand.

Mineral Point, Pa.

The Difference.

There is just at this time much said in the Evangelist in regard to what is the difference between the Brethren and the German Baptist Brethren. The answers to this question may be as varied as critics might well desire. Probably all would agree that the spirit of intolerance was the motive power through which satan operated. I believe the Brethren claim that despotism is the only barrier to a union between the two; and some local districts a union could be maintained were it not for the interferance of vindictiveness. The G. B's. admit the above in this way,—"you progressives simply want to be let alone in your talking, writing, preaching and wear just what you please." Now I do think that I do not over state the case. Would not the following be a fair statement of the differences: The Brethren maintain, believe and contend that their obedience is to God and to him alone through Jesus Christ as given in the gospel?

The German Baptists maintain, believe and contend that their members must be obedient to the church, and to this they make them pledge themselves before they even ask them to be obedient to their Master. Through this innovation comes the errors of their church government, with all the intolerance and despotism complained of.

It is not possible to be subject to two Masters. By holding to the one we despise the other. This sentence—"you must obey the church"—has done its work in the dark ages. The torch and the executioner's block are the monuments left to show the mark of this monster. May the Brethren heed its warning and stand from under.

Daniel Miller.

Hudson, Iowa.

April 9.—By request Elder John Nicholson and I went to Dallas Center, Iowa on the 5inst. Elder Nicholson preached a few discourses, then extending an invitation to all who wished to unite with us, and a number arose to their feet and they were all received as members into the Brethren Church. They were all heads of families and of good reputation and had all belonged to the G. B. church, formerly; and among them were two permanent ministers. They were organized into a church and may God's blessings be with them, and his spirit guide them to live a true gospel Christian life; and we trust they will prosper and multiply. Brethren and sisters, remember them in your prayers.

The church at Hudson and Enon are in a prosperous condition and we are looking forward to have a good refreshing shower at our revival meeting in the near future. Peace and union prevails among us all.

Samuel Cain.

Church Works.

We feel encouraged, as each week, through the Evangelist, we learn of the earnest efforts of so many of our brethren, sisters and friends in carrying on the good work of the church in its different departments. The object of this short letter is to call the attention of our young friends to the responsibility they will have to assume sooner or later, if the work so recently begun by those fearless lovers of truth and justice, ever reached that perfection we all desire. Soon strength and perhaps life will fail those who are now at the helm of our good ship and God will not supply their places with worthy men and women unless we do our part. The night of mental oppression and petty restriction is past, a bright and eventful day is about to dawn upon us as a church. I pray God that the record of the past may be a constant warning to us. What have we done to enlighten and build up our heathen brother? This question came again with double signification as I sat in a church business meeting not long since, when the subject of mission work was under discussion. And, the presiding officer remarked that a home mission was *all* we had.

My dear young friends if you have not already begun, begin *now* to think how we can do a great amount of this all-important though sadly neglected work in the shortest time, and in a measure make amends for neglected duty.

I think there will be a great day of thanksgiving and rejoicing when the word has gone forth that Ashland College is free from debt. But just then is the time when we must renew our efforts, the school work will have been scarcely begun and through its agency only both home and foreign missions must be established, if to any success. I believe ours is a time of *true Christian progression*; let us take warning from past experiences that we are not a hindrance to instead of a promoter of religious liberty and Christian duty.

My dear young friends don't read this with indifference, but resolve at once that by the help of Him who has created and gives you all you enjoy that you will do all in your power, by word and action, for the furtherance of His cause, in the manner dictated by His will through your conscience.

With God's blessings and beauties around you and God himself above you, you need fear *no* opposing powers.

Annie S. Arnold.

Montana, Kansas.

From Eaton, Ind.

It was our privilege to meet with the brethren at Eaton, Delaware Co., Ind., on the 14th of March, and conduct a two week's meeting for them.

We were favored with large congregations, and the best of interest prevailed. The result of our labors were six united with the church.

It was a pleasure to us to renew our associations with the Christian people at that place. We met with them last June for the first time and had a joyous meeting. The brethren at Eaton are earnest and devoted to the cause. Bro. J. A. Ridenour has charge of the church at Eaton, preaches for them once a month. Hope he may prove a blessing to the cause and to the community.

I would say to Bro. Holsinger that I, too, have a fine quilt. I did not go to Ohio after it, neither did I need to go to Hudson, Iowa; but I found it at Eaton, Ind., which was presented by the Christian people of that place, by a Christian minister in a grand and appropriate speech, which was filled with spirit and Christian zeal. May the choicest blessing of God rest on them for their kind remembrance of us. May they be blessed in basket and in store and may they grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth.

Brethren pray for us that we may yet be able to do some good in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Wm. W. Summers.

From Philadelphia.

There seems to be considerable anxiety manifested about the Philadelphia church. The editor some how expects some interesting developments. Just what their expectations are based upon I do not know. The church here has been under a cloud for two years and more, and much could be written concerning the difficulty that would be interesting, but not edifying and elevating; hence we do not think it proper to take up valuable space in a Christian Journal with detailed accounts. Suffice it to say that the difficulties are of a personal or a local nature, and not owing to the general church controversy; so the readers of the Evangelist need not look for any marked revolution in church relation. Some of us hate everything that savors of conservatism, and again others have an equal dislike for everything that bears the progressive stamp. Being about evenly divided upon this issue, there is nothing of a revolutionary character likely to occur in the near future, the least, or the most that could happen would be a split, and that has as yet not been seriously considered. Any developments of this nature will be promptly reported. Personal or local difficulties not.

Jacob C. Cassel.

Phil. April 15th, 1886.

Mich. and Ind. Mission.

A reading of Bro. Mason, in No. 15, I fear will cause an over estimate of our zeal in our Missionary work; for while some have done nobly, others have not replied to our correspondence. We need a list of all the preaching places in Indiana, and Michigan with the address of, at least, one active brother or sister at each point, who will act as Solicitors. Will not the ministry please take this in hand? We want active earnest solicitors. The minister knows best who they are. Send their names to us, and we will instruct them in the work. Brethren, when you read this get your pencil and write out the names and send them in at once. Let us not be "slothful in business." Address,

Guilford Leslie, Sec.

Nappanee, Ind.

Prophecy Being Fulfilled.

The drying up of the Euphrates, which is predicted (Rev. xvi. 12), is, it appears, actually taking place. Thus the prophecy is being literally as its metaphorical fulfillment draws near. The *Times* of India says: "The once mighty Euphrates seems likely to disappear altogether. For some years past the river-banks below Babylon have been giving away, so that the steam spread out into a marsh, until steamers could not pass, and only a narrow channel remained for native boats. Now this passage is becoming obliterated, and unless matters improve the towns on the banks will be ruined, and the famous river itself will be swallowed up by the desert."

A Well-Worn Bible.

The United States Supreme Court has a Bible which has been in constant use since 1808. It was printed at Oxford in 1799. On the fly-leaf is written, "United States Supreme Court, 1808." And every Justice of the Court and every attorney who has been admitted to the bar since that date has been sworn upon that Bible. It is a small volume and the binding shows the marks of frequent usage, particularly where the fingers clutch it in administering and taking an oath.